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The Librarian communicated donations from Rev. Drs. Cogswell and Lamson, Rev. Mr. Young, the President of the Society, Governor Everett, the Congress of the United States, Messrs. William Sullivan, William Lincoln, and James C. Odiorne.

Voted, That the Treasurer be directed to pay to Rev. Dr. Harris the sum paid by him for a copy of John Warner Barber's Connecticut Historical Collections for the Society.

Voted, That no book or pamphlet be taken from the Library until fifteen days after it has been received by the Society.

Judge DAVIS, Rev. Mr. YOUNG, and Rev. Dr. HARRIS were appointed a committee to consider and report at the next meeting as to the best mode of preserving the manuscripts of the Society.

Hon. Judge Durfee's letter of acceptance of his election as Corresponding Member was read.

Present — Appleton, Codman, J. Davis, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Gibbs, Harris, Jenks, Pierce, Ripley, Savage, Willard, and Worcester.

MONTHLY MEETING, JANUARY, 1838.

Jan. 25, 1838. The President in the chair.

The records of the last meeting were read.

Judge DAVIS, from the Committee on the preservation of the manuscripts of the Society, asked further time to report.

The Librarian reported that he had caused the Williams papers to be bound, pursuant to the direction of the Society. He also communicated two letters

from Professor Rafn, of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, in relation to the objects, transactions, and designs of the Society, touching our ante-Columbian history; which letters were referred, with the whole subject, to Judge DAVIS, Mr. PICKERING, and Governor EVERETT.*

* The following letter is on the Corresponding Secretary's file:—

“COPENHAGEN, Sept. 14, 1837.

(Duplicate, COPENHAGEN, Oct. 18, 1837.)

“REV. CHARLES LOWELL, D.D.,

Boston, Massachusetts.

“DEAR SIR, — Providence has been pleased to grant that, after seven years' labor, I have now the satisfaction of seeing the ‘*Antiquitates Americanæ*’ completed.

“The copies which you offered to transmit to the respective subscribers are now at the bookbinder's to be stitched. As soon as they are received back from him they will, without delay, be despatched by the first vessel sailing from Elsinore.

“The number of subscribers is as yet only small; but, now that the work is out, we may venture to hope that it will be considerably increased. This is not only desirable for the sake of the work itself, but is, moreover, very necessary with a view to our future labors.

“That you will take up this work with feelings of some expectation is what I can easily imagine, and it will give me no small satisfaction if your expectations shall be in some measure realized. It has been my endeavor to give to the world a faithful edition of these ancient records. You will here find a true picture of the events of times that are long since passed away. In my *Disquisitions* I have attempted simply to produce conviction by means of arguments, and have by no means sought to persuade by the ornaments of style. Here for the first time will be found indicated the precise spots where the ancient Northmen held their intercourse. In doing this, I hope I have brought forward a clear and convincing proof of the importance of the ancient records.

“I request you will get suitable notices inserted in some of the American periodicals, adding a recommendation to other editors of newspapers and journals to lend their aid towards directing the public attention to the work.

“The work has required considerable funds, which it was impossible for the Society to spare from the other undertakings it had previously projected. I was, therefore, myself obliged to furnish the greater part, otherwise it must have lain unpublished for perhaps another decennium.

“I think I may venture to hope that you will use your strenuous endeavors towards getting the expenses covered by means of an increased circulation. I know that you appreciate my labors in behalf of a good and praiseworthy cause, and that you will contribute all that lies in your power, so that my exer-

The Librarian communicated donations from Messrs. William H. Prescott, Josiah Quincy, Jr., William Lincoln, and Rev. Professor Palfrey.

tions and my partiality in favor of this American undertaking may not hereafter be cramped while there yet remains so very much to be done.

"I now commit the whole matter to your kind protection, and hope soon to receive an order from you for a larger number of copies of the '*Antiquitates Americanæ*.'

"I remain, dear Sir, respectfully yours,

"CHARLES C. RAFN,

Secretary of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries."

Another letter from Professor Rafn, dated Oct. 19, 1837, is on file, referring to the letter written on the preceding day, and saying that he had now sent a box to the care of Dr. Lowell, containing copies of the "*Antiquitates Americanæ*" for subscribers, of whom he gives a list; also, letters for the subscribers, informing them that they can receive their packages from Dr. Lowell, on paying the amount to the Society's agents, Messrs. A. & C. Cunningham, in Boston. The box also contained packages for several American gentlemen. The letter then proceeds:—

"A letter has been prepared by the Society's Committee on the Ante-Columbian History of America, the object of it being to announce that the '*Antiquitates Americanæ*' are now published, and also to contribute towards the erection by the Society of a permanent fund for the furtherance of the undertakings of the Committee, a measure highly necessary to enable the Committee to prosecute its operations with vigor. Copies of this letter are now enclosed, addressed to the subscribers and some other gentlemen, recommended to your kind care.

"Perhaps it may be possible to get the English prospectus stitched along with a number of the '*North American Review*,' whereby it would become still more generally known. The number of copies sent will, I hope, be sufficient for this purpose for Massachusetts. . . .

"In future, when new geographies or maps are published, it would be very desirable if something could be done to perpetuate such local names as we know with certainty were given in the beginning of the eleventh century. Such are, for example, Rialarness, Furdustrandir (*Straumsfiordr*), Streamfirth, and Hope.

"I have a remarkable piece of news to communicate to you respecting our ante-Columbian concerns. Our collaborator, Professor Finn Magnusen, has been fortunate enough to decipher, in a very satisfactory manner, the inscriptions in the *Paradisarhellir* which are of historical importance. His communication on this subject will be inserted in one of the next numbers of the '*Annals and Memoirs*.' The North European origin of the monuments in Massachusetts and Rhode Island is thereby in a strong degree corroborated. In fact, we may now pronounce it indubitable.

"I remain, dear Sir, respectfully yours, &c.,

CHARLES C. RAFN."

EDS.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Prescott for his valuable donation.*

Voted, That the Librarian be authorized to bind as many of the manuscripts of the Society as in his discretion he may think proper.

Mr. Nichols, at his own request, was excused from serving on the Committee for preparing the Index to the third decade.

Mr. Bancroft nominated Hon. A. W. Cochran, of Quebec, Vice-President of the Quebec Historical Society, for a Corresponding Member.

Mr. LINCOLN stated that the American Antiquarian Society were in possession of one volume of Governor Belcher's manuscript letters; and, as the remaining volumes belonged to this Society, the Executive Committee of the Antiquarian Society had voted to present their volume to the Society. Whereupon,

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to the Executive Committee for the destination they have given to this volume.

Present — The President, Bancroft, Bradford, Codman, J. Davis, I. P. Davis, Francis, Gibbs, Greenleaf, Greenwood, Harris, Lincoln, Mitchell, Pierce, Quincy, Ripley, Savage, White, Willard, and Young.

* Mr. Prescott's donation consisted of a copy of his "Ferdinand and Isabella." — Eds.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Feb. 22, 1838. In the absence of the President, Judge DAVIS was called to the chair.

Donations were communicated from the American Antiquarian Society, the heirs of the late John Codman, Esq., Rev. Drs. Cogswell and Palfrey, Simon Greenleaf, Alden Bradford, Dr. Jacob Porter, and Lieutenant Hood.

Voted, That the Librarian be authorized to purchase for the Society Yates and Moulton's "History of New York," 1824.

Hon. A. W. COCHRAN, of Quebec, Vice-President of the Quebec Historical Society, was elected Corresponding Member.

Voted, That the Treasurer be authorized to act in behalf of the Society in settling their claim against the American Stationers Company.

Present — Bradford, J. Davis, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Gardner, Harris, Lincoln, Merrill, Quincy, Savage, and Willard.

MONTHLY MEETING.

March 29, 1838. In the absence of the President, Judge DAVIS was called to the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Corresponding Secretary read a letter from Count de Macedo, of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Lisbon,

acknowledging the receipt of the Collections of this Society.

The Librarian communicated donations from Governor Winthrop, Edward S. Rand, Rev. Dr. Cogswell, Rev. J. L. Sibley, Rev. S. J. May, N. G. Snelling, J. Willard, and the American Philosophical Society.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be given to Hon. T. L. Winthrop for his valuable donation of Parliamentary debates; also, to N. G. Snelling, Esq., for his valuable donation of a volume of Governor Belcher's manuscript letters.*

Voted, That the Librarian be directed to publish immediately after each meeting, in the Boston "Daily Advertiser," a list of the donations made at such meeting.†

Sundry manuscripts presented by Miss Belknap, daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Belknap, through the instrumentality of I. P. Davis, Esq., were referred to the Publishing Committee.

Mr. I. P. DAVIS stated to the Society that the Society would be permitted to take a copy of the original portrait of Sebastian Cabot, which belongs to Richard Biddle, Esq., of Pittsburg; that the Society could have a first-rate copy, to be painted by Mr. John G. Chapman, of New York, for one hundred and fifty dollars; and that he was authorized to say that a gentleman of Boston would defray the expense, if the Society would deliver to him two copies of the Collections, — which

* The Society has now in one of its cupboards nine folio volumes (one of them fragmentary) of Jonathan Belcher's letters. Four of these volumes came from Dr. Belknap, one each from Dr. McKean, the American Antiquarian Society, and Mr. Snelling, and the remaining two from some source not yet indicated in the records. — Eds.

† The Society ceased from this time to publish in the Collections a list of the donations made to it, — the last acknowledgment being in Vol. VII., pp. 292-296, of the third series, for the year 1838. — Eds.

was readily agreed to, and Mr. DAVIS was requested to carry the measure into effect.

Judge DAVIS, from the Committee on Professor Rafn's letter, referred at the January meeting, made a report, which was read and accepted; and it was ordered that a copy thereof be forwarded to the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries at Copenhagen.*

Present — Bancroft, Bradford, Judge Davis, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Gardner, Harris, Ripley, Savage, Shattuck, and Willard.

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1838.

April 26, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

Judge DAVIS, from the Committee on the preservation of the manuscripts of the Society, appointed at the last December meeting, stated that the Committee had not been together, and were not ready to report.

Donations were announced by the Librarian from the President, and Messrs. I. P. Davis, Henry R. Lambert, J. W. Barber, Professor Greenleaf, and Rev. Messrs. Young and Palfrey.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year, viz. : —

* "Report recorded at length at May meeting." *Marginal note.* — Eds.

THOMAS L. WINTHROP	PRESIDENT.
JOSEPH WILLARD	RECORDING SECRETARY.
CHARLES LOWELL	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
JAMES SAVAGE	TREASURER.
THADDEUS M. HARRIS	LIBRARIAN.
ISAAC P. DAVIS	CABINET-KEEPER.
JAMES SAVAGE	} STANDING COMMITTEE.
CONVERS FRANCIS	
ALEXANDER YOUNG	
JOSEPH B. FELT	
SAMUEL P. GARDNER	

Rev. Dr. HARRIS was chosen Corresponding Secretary *ad interim*, Dr. Lowell being absent in Europe.

The following report on the Treasurer's accounts was read and accepted, viz.:—

The undersigned, a Committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society to examine the accounts of their Treasurer, James Savage, for the past year, having this day performed that service, report that the accounts are well kept, properly vouched, and correctly cast, by which a balance in favor of the Society appears of eighteen $\frac{60}{100}$ dollars and a half cent.*

SAMUEL P. GARDNER, }
ISAAC P. DAVIS, } *Committee.*

April 26, 1838.

Voted, To grant to Rev. Dr. Harris, for his services as Librarian the last six months, the same sum (one hundred dollars) as was voted to him for the preceding six months, by vote of April, 1837.

Voted, That the Publishing Committee call on the Chairman of the Committee appointed at the April meeting, 1836, to select a committee on the subject of notices of deceased members, for information in

* The receipts for the year amounted to \$445.87, of which sum \$269 were from the proceeds of the lectures, \$92 for admission fee and assessments, and \$84.87 from sales of publications. The payments amounted to \$571.13. Of this sum \$290.62 were for printing the Collections, \$100 for compensation to the sub-Librarian, \$83.25 for interest and taxes, \$5.25 for insurance on the Franklin Place estate, and the remainder for miscellaneous expenses. — EDS.

relation to the doings of the selected Committee, and to report at the next meeting.

Present — The President, Austin, Bartlett, Bradford, J. Davis, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Gardner, Gibbs, Greenleaf, Harris, Pierce, Quincy, Ripley, Savage, Shattuck, Willard, Worcester, and Young.

Dissolved.

JOSEPH WILLARD,
Recording Secretary.

MONTHLY MEETING.

May 31, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

At the request of Mr. Savage, Mr. I. P. DAVIS was substituted as a committee to settle with the American Stationers Company, pursuant to the vote of February, 1838.

The Recording Secretary communicated a letter from Rev. Dr. Lowell, dated London, March 9, 1838, covering a donation from John Disney, Esq., of the Hyde, near Ingate Stone, in Essex, England, of sundry letters to and from Hollis; also, two volumes of his father's (late Rev. Mr. Disney) sermons, and a stamped paper, issued under the Boston Stamp Act. Whereupon,

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Disney for his kind remembrance and donation.

He also communicated a letter from Hon. John Lowell, covering a donation from George Knight, Esq., of Havana, of a manuscript discourse pronounced at Havana by Don Joseph Augustin Cabellero, Professor

in the College in that city, on the reinterment of the remains of Columbus there, Jan. 19, 1796, it being the original from which the discourse was delivered, "in the beautiful writing of the orator."

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Knight for his valuable and interesting donation, and also to Mr. Lowell for his successful exertions in their behalf.*

* The following is Mr. Lowell's letter, which accompanied the Spanish manuscript:—

"ROXBURY, May 25th, 1838.

"JOSEPH WILLARD, Esq., Secretary of the
Massachusetts Historical Society.

"SIR,—When the Government of Spain ceded to France, in 1795, the Spanish part of St. Domingo, it was expressly stipulated that they should have a right to remove the bones of Christopher Columbus, which then reposed in the Cathedral Church of the city of St. Domingo. They sent a seventy-four gun ship and two frigates to escort in safety these remains to the capital of the island of Cuba, Havana; and, on the nineteenth day of January, 1796, the remains of that extraordinary man were carried with great military and civil pomp to the Cathedral of our 'Lady of the Conception,' at Havana, and a learned and eloquent eulogium was then delivered over these remains by Don Joseph Augustin Cabellero, a professor in the college in that city. Hearing, while in Havana, that the discourse had been printed, I endeavored to procure a copy for the Library of our Historical Society. All my endeavors proved fruitless; but my friend, George Knight, Esq., formerly of Newburyport and Boston, and long an eminent merchant in Havana, has been fortunate enough to obtain the original, from which the address was delivered, in the beautiful writing of the orator, and has sent it to me, to be presented to the Massachusetts Historical Society. Every thing which concerns that great man has its interest for us, and a discourse by a learned Spaniard, upon so remarkable an occasion as the transference of his remains to the place of their present repose, must be peculiarly so. Any notice which you or the Society may please to take of Mr. Knight's attention I will carefully transmit to him.

"I am, dear Sir, very respectfully yours,

JOHN LOWELL."

It is not strictly true that the treaty referred to stipulated a reservation of the remains of Columbus. The suggestion of their translation from St. Domingo to Havana was an afterthought, or a subsequent proposal, of the Lieutenant-General of the Royal Armada of Spain, Don Gabriel de Aristizabal, who had been despatched to the island with the royal squadron to assist in the accomplishment of the cession of the Spanish possessions in the island of Hispaniola to France. The suggestion was readily adopted by the authorities of both the islands of Hispaniola and of Cuba, but there was no time, without great inconvenience, to consult with the home governments. See Irving's Columbus, Appendix, No. I.—Eds.

The Librarian communicated donations from the Legislature of the Commonwealth, also from Messrs. William Lincoln, Peter Force, John Pickering, and Lemuel Shattuck.

The Corresponding Secretary communicated a letter of acceptance from Hon. Francis Baylies, of Taunton, who was elected a member of the Society in November last.

The Recording Secretary, in behalf of Rev. Dr. Lowell, nominated John Disney, Esq., of The Hyde, near Ingate Stone, in Essex, England, for a Corresponding Member of the Society.

On motion of Mr. SHATTUCK,

Voted, That the Standing Committee prepare a circular letter, to be sent to such individuals as they may deem expedient, stating the objects of the Society, and requesting the contribution of all such books, pamphlets, and manuscripts as they may be willing to present to the Society or deposit in the Library; also, that the said Committee publish the letter in the several newspapers printed in the State.

On motion of Mr. WORCESTER,

Voted, That the Standing Committee consider the expediency of having an Honorary Corresponding Member in each of the remote counties of the State, whose duty it shall be to collect and forward to the Library of the Society such books, pamphlets, and manuscripts as may be useful to the Society, and convenient for him to procure; and that that Committee, should they think it proper, nominate candidates for such membership.

The following report, made at the March meeting, on the subject of Professor Rafn's letter, is here recorded, viz.:—

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
March 29, 1838.

The Committee appointed at the meeting in January last, relative to the publications then recently received from the

Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, having perused the letters from Professor Rafn written in behalf of that Society, and the replies of Rev. Dr. Harris in behalf of this Society, in the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, find that all due and respectful notice has been taken of the communications received from that Society.* They would recommend,

* The following are the letters of Dr. Harris, the acting Corresponding Secretary, referred to by the Committee:—

“BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, Jan. 23, 1838.

“Professor RAFN, Copenhagen.

“HON. SIR,—The Rev. Dr. Lowell having gone to Europe for the benefit of his health, I have been appointed to attend to the duties of his office as Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society. In consequence of which, your letter of Sept. 14, 1837, with the under date of October 18, addressed to him, was transmitted to me, together with the box containing books and certain small packages, brought to our port by the American ship ‘Wallace,’ Captain C. Thaxter. All the letters and parcels have been forwarded to their destination, and several of the books delivered, for which the money was received by myself, and has been paid over to Messrs. A. & C. Cunningham, agreeably to your request; and, before this reaches you, the whole will be settled with them, in accomplishment of the responsibility devolved upon me. I may premise, however, that having informed George Folsom, Esq., of New York, that a volume awaited him, he wrote me thus: ‘Mr. Bartlett, the agent and correspondent of Professor Rafn in this city, delivered a copy of the “*Antiquitates Americanæ*” to me, some weeks ago, for which I paid him. This was the only volume for which I subscribed.’ For the volume thus on my hands I will endeavor to find a purchaser. Not knowing who ‘the gentleman of Salem’ could be, nor how to find out, I have sold the volume to the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, who wished that their Library should possess a copy. The one noted for me I have taken, though I was not a subscriber. I have not yet examined the work, but perceive that it is a splendid volume. I hope that I may yet have the opportunity of reading it with care and critical note; though my advanced age and miserable state of health unfit me almost wholly for studious application. Of consequence, I must decline the proposal of election as a member of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries. A feeble septuagenarian, I could not presume on being able to contribute any thing to the literary or historical investigations of the Society; and my worldly circumstances are such as would not justify any pecuniary deduction for what would be but a plume on my hearse. I am, however, not insensible to the honor intended me by this nomination, and feel grateful to those who proposed it. In this connection, permit me to assure you of the tender sensibility of Madam Fiske, the relict of the Hon. Oliver Fiske, M.D., deceased, for the like honor intended her husband. I must also notify you of the death of Alexander Dustin, Esq., of Sterling, to whose widow I have transmitted your letter.

“The copies of the English prospectus of the ‘*Antiquitates Americanæ*’ were

however, in addition, that instructions be given to some proper officer or officers of this Society to carry into execution the expressed wishes of that Society for diffusing and

received too late to be attached to the number of the 'North American Review,' which has just been published. I have sent them to the editor, to accompany that of the next. There is, however, in the one now issued a review of the work itself, made from a volume which the writer had obtained several weeks before those for societies and subscribers arrived in the city of Boston. The article is said to be elaborate and learned, and such as will be likely to attract the most respectful notice of the exceedingly interesting volume.

"Your letters to Dr. Lowell will be laid before the Society at their next meeting, and united attention called to their contents.

"As an individual, a worn-out village clergyman, my own sphere of action and influence is very limited. Well will it be, if, in this office of Corresponding Secretary, which I am discharging by substitution, I fall not far short of what is expected or implied by its assignment to me.

"I am, however, with great respect, your humble servant,

"THADDEUS MASON HARRIS."

"FEB. 13, 1838.

"To Professor RAFFN.

"HON. SIR, — My letter of January 23 last was sent to Mr. Bartlett, of New York, who, I am informed, is your agent and correspondent, to be by him forwarded to you. In it I stated that, as Dr. Lowell was on a visit to Europe for the benefit of his health, the duty of Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society in his absence had been assigned to me. I have, therefore, attended to what your letters had requested of him, by causing to be delivered to subscribers and others the books and parcels received by the ship 'Wallace,' and paying over the moneys received to Messrs. A. & C. Cunningham, namely: —

"In the first list, for those books more particularly directed to the care of Dr. Lowell	\$97.00
In the second list, for sale of the books to others	149.50
For 'composition' of President Quincy	27.00
And for the sum to constitute the Hon. T. L. Winthrop 'a founder'	54.00

Making the whole amount paid Messrs. Cunningham \$327.50

"I have received from the aged and venerable Aaron Bancroft, D.D., of Worcester, a letter, desiring me to express his grateful acknowledgment of the honor of being placed on the list of nomination of proposed members of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, — a distinction with which he will be pleased; as also from Abijah Bigelow, Esq., of Worcester, whose letter accompanies this.

"At a late meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, your communications to the Rev. Dr. Lowell were placed in the hands of a committee, with

extending information of their publications, especially of those having relation to early discoveries of America, and to transmit to their Secretary, if obtainable, free of expense, such publications as have been or may be made in this country, relative to the ante-Columbian discoveries announced in the Transactions of that Society.

The Committee are not prepared to offer a review or examination of the works transmitted by that Society, and are not certain that a service of that description was intended to be directed in their commission. It would require for its due performance more time and labor than the Committee are prepared to bestow on the subject. Such investigation, it is thought, may well be left for voluntary individual choice, or for future selection, if this Society should deem it expedient to cause such review or examination to be made by their express direction.

J. DAVIS,

In behalf of the Committee.

Present — The President, Austin, Bartlett, Bradford, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Gibbs, Greenleaf, Harris, Lewis, Lincoln, Mitchell, Palfrey, Ripley, Savage, Shattuck, Willard, Worcester, and Young.

reference to some important suggestions which they contain, as well as to the exceedingly interesting discoveries exhibited and applied in the magnificent volume of *'Antiquitates Americanæ'* to which they refer.

"By early acknowledging the receipt of this letter and that of January 23, as also one from me in my humble individuality, dated Aug. 25, 1837, with a small parcel of books, you will greatly oblige," &c.

Dr. Harris also wrote to Professor Rafn, May 9, 1838, repeating the assurance of having attended to the business on behalf of the Society of Northern Antiquaries; and on the following September he again wrote, referring to his former letters of January 23, February 13, and May 8, which gave the information concerning the collection and disposition of funds, &c., and saying he felt a solicitude to know if his letters had been received. — Eds.

MONTHLY MEETING.

June 28, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Recording Secretary communicated a letter from Rev. Dr. Palfrey, resigning his place as a Fellow ; which resignation was, after deliberation, accepted.

Judge DAVIS communicated a letter from Rev. Leonard Bacon, of New Haven, establishing the fact of the death of Isaac Allerton at New Haven in 1659. The letter was referred to the Publishing Committee.*

Judge Davis nominated Rev. Leonard Bacon, of New Haven, and Mr. Felt, in behalf of Mr. Bancroft, who was absent, nominated the Rev. Francis L. Hawks, D.D., of New York, for Corresponding Members.

The Standing Committee nominated William H. Prescott, Esq., of Boston, for Immediate Member.

JOHN DISNEY, Esq., of The Hyde, near Ingate Stone, Essex, England, was chosen Corresponding Member.

Mr. SAVAGE stated to the meeting that the reprint of Vol. I., second series, was nearly out of the press.†

The Librarian communicated donations from the President of the Society, William Brigham, Esq., and the Rhode Island Historical Society.

The Corresponding Secretary communicated a letter from Count de Macedo, of Lisbon, announcing that he had forwarded to the Society the second part of Vol.

* See 3 Collections, VII. 243-249. — Eds.

† This volume was reprinted this year by John H. Eastburn. — Eds.

XI., and the first part of Vol. XII., of the publications of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Lisbon.

Mr. I. P. DAVIS, from the Committee on the subject, reported that he had settled with the American Stationers Company, and had become party to the assignment in behalf of the Society, and that the whole of the Society's claim would probably be realized; also, that a balance of some ten or fifteen dollars remained due from Messrs. Russell & Shattuck.*

He also reported that the whole expense of the copy of Sebastian Cabot's portrait, with the frame, and two sets of the Collections, had been defrayed by the liberality of our President.† Whereupon,

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be given to the President for his munificence, again manifested by this highly valuable and interesting donation.

Present — The President, Appleton, Bartlett, Bradford, J. Davis, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Harris, Pierce, Ripley, Savage, Willard, and Young.

* It will be remembered that the Society, in March, 1835 (see *ante*, p. 62), made an agreement for three years with Russell, Odiorne, & Co., book publishers, for the sale of their Collections. This firm was soon afterward succeeded by that of Russell, Shattuck, & Co., who, in turn, with sundry authors, formed the "American Stationers Company." This name appears on the title-page of one of the volumes of the Society's Collections, — Vol. VI., third series, Boston, 1837. The Society may have tacitly allowed their agreement to pass to the successors of the original contractors. Mr. Lemuel Shattuck, a member of the last two concerns, was also a member of the Society. The Stationers Company soon failed, its funds being used up, as was afterward ascertained, in paying the debts of Russell, Shattuck, & Co., and both firms appear to have been indebted to the Society. — EDS.

† See a notice of this portrait, and some discussion relative to the original picture, in Proceedings for January, 1865, pp. 91-96, by the late Dr. Appleton. — EDS.

MONTHLY MEETING.

July 26, 1838. The President in the chair.

In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the Librarian acted as Recording Secretary *pro tem*.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Rev. FRANCIS L. HAWKS, D.D., Rector of St. Thomas's Church, New York, and Rev. LEONARD BACON, of New Haven, were chosen Corresponding Members. WILLIAM H. PRESCOTT, Esq., of Boston, was chosen a Resident Member.

The President nominated Professor James L. Kingsley, of New Haven, and Mr. Savage nominated M. Henri Ternaux, of Paris, France, for Corresponding Members.

The Librarian communicated a donation of books from the family of the late William Taylor, of this city; also, from Judge White, of Salem, Professor Palfrey, Rev. Messrs. Young and Greenwood, Hon. Nathan Appleton, and the Royal Academy of Sciences at Lisbon.

Present — The President, Austin, Bartlett, Bradford, Codman, I. P. Davis, Felt, Gibbs, Gray, Jenks, Pierce, Quincy, Ripley, Savage, Ticknor, and White.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Aug. 28, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Corresponding Secretary communicated a letter from Rev. Leonard Bacon, accepting his election as Honorary Member.

The Librarian communicated donations from Rev. F. W. P. Greenwood, Professor Kingsley, and Richard Haughton, Esq.

Voted, That the Librarian cause to be suitably bound the manuscript eulogy on Columbus that was pronounced at Havana by Professor Cabellero, and was presented to this Society at the last May meeting.

Messrs. PRESCOTT, PICKERING, and HARRIS were appointed a committee for the purpose of translating Professor Cabellero's eulogy on Columbus, to be published in the next volume of the Collections.

Rev. Dr. HARRIS, from the Publishing Committee, announced that Vol. VII., third series, was this day published, and was ready for delivery.

The President nominated John L. Stephens, of New York, and Mr. Pickering nominated George Catlin, Esq., of New York, for Corresponding Members.

JAMES L. KINGSLEY, LL.D., Professor at Yale College, New Haven, and M. HENRI TERNAUX, were chosen Corresponding Members.

Mr. SAVAGE, from the Committee on the disposition of the Collections, reported a request from Leonard Bliss, Jr., Esq., in behalf of the Kentucky Historical

Society, for the published volumes of the third series of our Collections.* Whereupon,

Voted, To present to the Kentucky Society a set of the third series.

Messrs. GRAY, PRESCOTT, FELT, and YOUNG were chosen Publishing Committee for Vol. VIII., third series.

Mr. SAVAGE was requested to continue the insurance on the Society's property in Franklin Street.

Messrs. WILLARD, I. P. DAVIS, and GRAY were appointed a committee to determine upon the expediency

* The following is Mr. Bliss's letter, on file:—

“LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, March 2, 1838.

“HON. JAMES SAVAGE.

“DEAR SIR,—Our Legislature has just chartered a Kentucky Historical Society, of which I have the honor to be the projector. If you have a copy of the Constitution of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in an unbound or pamphlet form, will you do me the favor to send it to me by mail at this place? We have not yet drawn up our Constitution, and should probably receive much assistance from yours. Will you also put down the Kentucky Historical Society among the list of those to which you will send the publications of your Society. They may be directed to my address, and left at the book-store of S. G. Drake, No. 56 Cornhill, Boston. Our Society will devote itself to Western history, in the widest sense of the term, and will give great attention to the mounds and early antiquities of this part of the country. I am at present connected with a college, recently established in this city, in the capacity of Professor of Belles-Lettres and History. I should have spared you this trouble, and written to my friend, Judge Mitchell, had I been certain of his being in Boston. I thought he might be at East Bridgewater, and so not get my letter till it should be too late to be of any service to me.

“With the highest esteem, I am, dear Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

LEONARD BLISS, Jr.”

Mr. Bliss had been a resident of Massachusetts. He entered Brown University in 1831, and left in his Junior year. During his college vacations he collected the materials of his “History of Rehoboth,” published in Boston in 1836. He edited the “Republican” newspaper in Boston, and subsequently taught school in Stow and in Plymouth. He then went to Louisville, Kentucky, and was Professor of Belles-Lettres and History in Louisville College, and associated with Prentice in the “Louisville Journal.” He was shot with a pistol in that city, in 1842 or 1843, by Godfrey Pope, brother of Governor Pope, on account of an article in the “Journal,” relating to the latter. Mr. Bliss was a man of great promise. (*Letter from the Rev. Elias Nason, Mr. Bliss's classmate.*)—EDS.

of having a course of lectures the ensuing season, with full powers, if they should see fit, to decide thereupon, and to make all necessary arrangements for the course.

Present — The President, Bradford, J. Davis, I. P. Davis, Felt, Gibbs, Gray, Harris, Jenks, Pickering, Prescott, Ripley, Savage, and Willard.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Sept. 27, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

Mr. Quincy was excused, at his own request, from serving on the Committee on the subject of memoirs of deceased members, appointed pursuant to the vote of the April meeting, 1836.

Rev. Dr. PIERCE was chosen in his place, but was subsequently excused, at his own request, and Rev. Dr. JENKS was then chosen to fill the vacancy.

JOHN L. STEPHENS, and GEORGE CATLIN, Esqs., of New York, were chosen Honorary Members.*

* The first Constitution of the Historical Society, adopted Jan. 24, 1791, provided for the election of not exceeding thirty members, who shall be citizens of Massachusetts; also for Corresponding Members, chosen in other States or countries, whose number also shall not exceed thirty. The former class was not otherwise designated than as "members," but they soon became known in the records as "Resident Members," while the others continued to be called, as above, "Corresponding Members."

The charter of incorporation, of Jan. 24, 1794, provided also for but two classes of members, viz.: "The number of members of said Society shall never be more than sixty, except Honorary Members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth." In the By-Laws, adopted in June, four months later, both classes of members were not otherwise designated than as those residing within the State, and those residing without the State; but the records named

The President nominated John Winthrop, Esq., of New Orleans, and M. Constantine D. Schinas, Counselor of State of His Majesty the King of Greece, and Rector of the University of Athens, for Corresponding Members.

Mr. YOUNG communicated from Colonel Aspinwall a manuscript copy of the printed volume of John Brereton, containing an account of Gosnold's voyage in 1602; also, a letter from Colonel Aspinwall on the subject. Whereupon, the thanks of the Society were voted to Colonel Aspinwall for his kind donation.

Voted, To refer the copy of Brereton to the Publishing Committee, with a request that they report at the next meeting whether to print the same separately or as a part of the next volume of the Collections.

The Librarian communicated donations from Rev. Dr. Jasper Adams, Rev. Dr. Cogswell, Rev. Abiel Abbot, and from Lemuel Shattuck, Joseph E. Worcester, and Theodore Dwight, Jr., Esqs.

The Committee on Lectures reported that they had not been able to provide a course of lectures this season.

them, as before, "Resident Members" and "Corresponding Members," and these designations were used in the amended code of By-Laws, adopted in 1809.

In a few instances in the records, as in the case above, nominations or elections of persons residing without the Commonwealth have been made as "Honorary Members," but the name was used as a convertible term with "Corresponding Members." In some instances, as in this, persons have been nominated as "Corresponding Members," and elected as "Honorary Members"; but the latter term was rarely used, and there could have been but one uniform style adopted in the diplomas issued.

In the amended By-Laws of 1853, members without the State were designated as "Honorary or Corresponding Members." By the amendment of the charter in 1857, the Society was authorized to elect three classes of members, — Resident, Honorary, and Corresponding. — EDS.

The President communicated a letter from P. F. Kimball, Esq., to Adam Winthrop, Esq., April 11, 1838, in relation to the manuscript Journal of La Salle, saying he had reason to believe that the original was in the Library at Washington; also, a letter from Judge Henry A. Bullard, of Louisiana, to Adam Winthrop, Esq., May 10, 1838, giving it as his opinion that this manuscript is the Journal of La Harpe,* which has been published; also, a letter from Rev. Dr. Robertson, of Syra, Greece, June 20, 1838, acknowledging the receipt of diplomas for himself and M. Jacobaki Rizos.

Present — The President, Appleton, Bartlett, I. P. Davis, J. Davis, Felt, Francis, Gibbs, Gray, Harris, Mitchell, Pierce, Prescott, Quincy, Savage, Shattuck, Upham, Willard, Worcester, and Young.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Oct. 25, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

The Librarian communicated a translation of Professor Cabellero's eulogy on Columbus, made under the direction of William H. Prescott, Esq., pursuant to a vote at the meeting in August last. Whereupon, the thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Prescott for his kind services in their behalf.

* Judge Bullard, to whom reference is made, was a Corresponding Member of this Society, and the first President of the Louisiana Historical Society. He died in 1851. The Journal of La Harpe was printed in Vol. III. of B. F. French's "Historical Collections of Louisiana." New York, 1851. — Eds.

*Voted, To refer the translation of Cabellero's eulogy to the Publishing Committee of Vol. VIII.**

* The original manuscript of Cabellero's eulogy, as well as the translation made under the direction of Mr. Prescott, in the handwriting of his secretary, are both in the Society's Library. The Publishing Committee of Vol. VIII., third series, to whom the latter was referred, did not print it. They probably saw that it contained little that was really valuable in an historical point of view. But they did print, as a substitute for it, the account of Columbus from the manuscript "History of the Catholic Sovereigns, Ferdinand and Isabella," by Andres Bernaldez, translated from a copy of the original manuscript, belonging to Mr. Prescott. Bernaldez's History has since been published entire. The following is the title of Cabellero's, or Cavellero's Discourse, as rendered into English:—

"A Funeral Discourse, in Eulogy of the Most Excellent Señor Don Christopher Columbus, First Admiral, Viceroy, and Governor-General of the West Indies, their Discoverer and Conqueror. Pronounced on occasion of the removal of his ashes from the Metropolitan Church of St. Domingo to the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Conception, at Havana, by Dr. Joseph Augustin Cavellero, Professor of Philosophy in the Royal and Consiliary College of St. Charles and St. Ambrose, on the morning of 19th January, 1796."

This Discourse purports to have been delivered on the 19th of January, 1796, in Havana, on the day of the reception there of the remains of Columbus by the authorities of the island of Cuba. The orator thus begins his address:—

"How different, illustrious Christopher Columbus, great Admiral of the Indies, how different is thine entry this morning, through the streets of Havana, from that which thou didst make in the year 1492, into the delightful island of Guanahani!"

Naverrete, tom. II., p. 365, publishes abstracts from official accounts of the transfer of the precious bones and dust of the great Discoverer from San Domingo to Havana, and of their reception there by the civil, military, and ecclesiastical authorities of the island of Cuba, and of their deposit in the Cathedral Church, amidst the most imposing ceremonies.

Doubts have recently been expressed in some quarters as to the genuineness of the remains transferred from San Domingo to Havana in 1796. While this note has been in preparation, some resolutions have been received from the New Jersey Historical Society, adopted Jan. 30, 1879, in which they say: "It appears to be a fact settled beyond reasonable doubt that the mortal remains of the great discoverer, Christopher Columbus, were never removed from San Domingo, but are still there, in the custody of Canon Billini, of the Cathedral Church in that city, acting under the authority of the municipal government, as was shown by their discovery and examination on the 10th of September, 1877, and the re-examination made at the request of his Catholic Majesty the King of Spain, on the 2d of January, 1878." These resolutions were accompanied by a pamphlet, entitled "Los Restos de Colon en Santo Domingo. Por Emiliano Tejera. Santo Domingo, 1878."

The people of San Domingo desire to erect a suitable monument in their Cathedral, over what they regard as the genuine remains of Columbus, and

Voted, That as the annual Thanksgiving will occur on the 29th of November next, the day of the stated meeting of the Society, that the next meeting be held on the 22d of November (Thursday).

JOHN WINTHROP, Esq., of the city of New Orleans, and M. CONSTANTINE D. SCHINAS, of Athens, Greece, were elected Corresponding Members.

Mr. GRAY, from the Publishing Committee, to whom was referred at the last meeting the manuscript of Brereton, reported that the same ought to be published in the Collections; which report was accepted.*

The Librarian communicated donations from Messrs. J. Sparks, John Pickering, J. E. Worcester, and Hon. Peter O. Thacher.

Mr. SAVAGE stated that one of the members had not paid his annual assessments for several years, as required by the rules of the Society, and requested the instructions of the Society on the subject. Whereupon,

Voted, To refer the subject to Messrs. Young and I. P. Davis, to report thereupon at the next meeting.

Voted, That the Librarian be requested to have fifty blank diplomas struck off, partly on paper and partly on parchment.

Present — The President, Austin, Bartlett, Bradford, Felt, Gibbs, Gray, Harris, Lincoln, Mitchell, Pierce, Prescott, Ripley, Savage, White, Willard, and Young.

Historical Societies in this country are invoked to render necessary assistance. The people of Havana, on the other hand, claim that the genuine remains are deposited in that city, and the pamphlet controversy is probably not yet ended. The question as to where the true casket is now reposing seems likely never to be settled. In the mean time, the occasion seems to have inspired a new and elegant edition at Paris of Roselly de Lorgues' "Life and Voyages of Columbus," first published in that city in 1864. In this work the author claims the sanctity of Christopher Columbus, and urges that the Romish Church should declare him to be a saint. — Eds.

* It was printed in Vol. VIII. of the third series, with Archer's account of the same voyage from Purchas; the whole followed by Rosier's Relation of Waymouth's Voyage in 1605. — Eds.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Nov. 22, 1838. In the absence of the President, the Hon. John Quincy Adams was called to the chair.

The Recording Secretary not being present, the Librarian was appointed to keep the record of the meeting. The record of the last meeting was read.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the circumstances of a delinquent payment, pursuant to the vote at the October meeting, desired leave of further time for consideration.

The letter of Mr. Catlin accepting his election as Corresponding Member was read.

The report of the Librarian being read, it was voted that the same be entered on the records, and is as follows, viz. : —

Librarian's Report.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
Nov. 12, 1838.

GENTLEMEN, — Having been Librarian for the Massachusetts Historical Society just one year and a half, I feel it proper for me to give some account of what I have done in the discharge of duties connected with that office.

I entered upon the employment May 11, 1837; and, for one whole year, with few unavoidable detentions, was in the Library every secular day of the week, excepting Saturday. Since then the state of my health has taken me off about a fourth part of the time, till the last of October, and since then I have been in the Library only on Thursdays.

My first object was to complete the Catalogue, by entering in it all the tracts which had been recently bound into volumes, and were placed on the three upper shelves on the

north side of the room, and also the books on the shelves adjoining the New England Library on the west side, and late additions elsewhere. This was chiefly double entry, first on the blank leaf of each volume of tracts, and then in the general Catalogue.

My next attention was paid to the files of old manuscripts. From these I selected such as appeared most worthy of preservation, arranged them in chronological order,* and had them bound up in fourteen thick folio volumes, which are thus classed:—

Seven of "Letters and Papers," from 1632 to the end of 1824.

One of "Letters and Papers," respecting affairs of Boston.

One of "Letters to and from Dr. Colman."

Two of "Letters and Papers" from the family of "Colonel Israel Williams," respecting French and Indian war, together with letters from Governor Hutchinson, and documents about the founding of Williams College, from 1730 to 1780.

One of "Captain Moses Greenleaf's Military Papers."

One of ecclesiastical papers, principally from the "Rev. T. Prince's Collection."

One of original documents respecting the "Siege of Louisburg."

Although the expense of binding them is a heavy tax on the Society, yet it will not be deemed inconsiderately incurred when it is understood that these are varied materials for ascertaining facts or indicating circumstances, and detailing incidents, of a local nature, indeed, but subservient to general history; and, when an index shall be made to these volumes, they may be consulted with special advantage.

My next labor was bestowed on the Trumbull letters and papers, to mark the pages and make an index. This has been accomplished only for the first nine volumes, but I trust to finish the remainder in the course of the winter.

The volumes of our Collections, which had occupied so much room in the ante-chamber, have been removed to the

* In the margin is written, "Arranged before 1838 by J. B. Felt."—Eds.

attic, and are placed on shelves by such an arrangement as makes it easy to select single volumes or make up a series; whereas, before, they were put up without order or succession.

A large collection of pamphlets has been assorted in bundles, in order to be bound up in volumes when the funds of the Society will admit of such an expense.

My labors were often and greatly interrupted by visitors to the Library during the pleasant weather; but I felt a pride in waiting upon those who were collecting historical information, and in assisting them in their investigations. Gentlemen who were residents at the Tremont House took much pleasure in visiting our rooms, and other strangers were occasionally introduced.

I may be permitted to refer also to the responsibility occasioned by my being appointed one of the Publishing Committee of the seventh volume of the third series of the Collections. After the selection of articles was made, all of which were of manuscripts, it was found necessary to copy for the printer, from the originals, about one-third of the volume, and this took up considerable time.

In the service assigned me in the absence of Dr. Lowell, I have endeavored to answer the letters, domestic and foreign, in a suitably respectful manner, and with much solicitude and punctuality distributed the volumes of the "*Antiquitates Americanæ*," sent from Copenhagen, to be forwarded to subscribers and societies, and collected and paid over the amount, three hundred and twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents, to Messrs. A. & C. Cunningham, agreeably to the directions of Professor Rafn.

As it would be too expensive to the Society to have a fire kept daily in the Library during the winter, and as my health and unavoidable avocations will not allow my constant attendance at the room, I propose to go to it only on Thursdays, when I will do such service as I can. I am sensible, therefore, that I ought not to receive, after this date, the salary

offered me by the Society, but only such moderate compensation as that reduced portion of time may deserve.

Respectfully submitted by

THADDEUS MASON HARRIS.

Present — J. Q. Adams, Austin, Codman, I. P. Davis, Felt, Gardner, Gibbs, Gray, Greenleaf, Harris, Jenks, Ripley, Savage, Ticknor, Worcester, and Young.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Dec. 27, 1838. The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read.

Voted, That the Rev. Dr. Harris be allowed and paid for his services for the half-year ending November, 1838, in the office of Librarian, the same sum as for the preceding half-year.

The Librarian communicated donations from Dr. Palfrey, Rev. Mr. Blagden, Hon. John Davis, of Worcester, and Henry Gassett, Esq.

Mr. I. P. Davis nominated William L. Stone, Esq., of the city of New York, for Corresponding Member.

On motion of Mr. FELT,

Voted, That as there is a considerable number of Acts pertaining to the Andros administration at the State House, and it is desirable to have them as perfect as can be, and one belonging to them is among our papers, that it be returned to the Secretary of State, where it should be deposited.

Present — The President, Austin, Bartlett, I. P. Davis, Felt, Francis, Harris, Jenks, Mitchell, Pierce, Ripley, Savage, Shaw, Ticknor, White, Willard, Worcester, and Young.